



# Focus

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## Washington's G.O.L.D. Plan

### The G.O.L.D. Plan

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In 1989, the Washington Legislature passed the Waste Not Washington act (SHB 1671), making several major changes to how the state manages its solid waste. These changes made reducing waste and recycling our top two priorities for managing solid waste. The act requires all state agencies and institutions to reduce and recycle the solid and hazardous wastes they generate. It asked the Department of Ecology and the Department of General Administration to create a comprehensive plan to make government leaders in waste reduction and recycling. This plan, called Government Options to Landfill Disposal (G.O.L.D.), was completed in January 1991.

### The Goals

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The G.O.L.D. Plans goals are:

- To annually reduce the solid and hazardous wastes generated by state government facilities.
- To recycle 50% of all solid waste generated at state government facilities by 1995 and to increase the recycling rate annually thereafter.
- To conserve natural resources and reduce environmental degradation by annually increasing the procurement and use of products that are reusable, recyclable, made from recovered materials and are non-toxic.
- To support the market for recycled paper by increasing the use of recycled paper and paper products at all state facilities by 50% by July 1, 1993 and annually thereafter.

### Plan Development and Requirements

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The G.O.L.D. Plan was developed by the G.O.L.D. Advisory Board, which was comprised of fifteen representatives from state agencies, community colleges and state colleges and universities. The effort was coordinated by the Department of Ecology and the Department of General Administration.

The G.O.L.D. Plan requires all state agencies and institutions with more than twenty employees to prepare a waste reduction and recycling plan for their buildings. The Plan defines how Ecology and General Administration will help state agencies develop and implement their plans.

Plans developed by state agencies and institutions are required to address waste reduction, recycling, procurement, employee education and measurement of results achieved. A G.O.L.D. planning manual has been prepared to assist in the process of preparing a plan and developing ways to evaluate, reduce and recycle your waste.

### Available Assistance

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The Department of Ecology will help agencies develop their plans and provide technical assistance to state institutions regarding waste reduction and recycling, and will develop reporting guidelines. The Department of General Administration will assist with recycling contracts, development of procurement programs and increased availability of recycled products. General Administration, through the G.O.L.D. committee, also will create and administer an awards program to recognize special achievements of state agencies.